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The University Journal

PRAESTANTIA NON SINE LABORE.

VOL. 3

WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY 2, 1906.

No. 11

A Mississippi Bubble

We note with some displeasure the tendency on the part of a few Southern pseudo statesmen to indict, upon the most unsatisfactory evidence, all the members of an unfortunate race. We will not do them the injustice to believe them sincere; for, in seeking a motive for their idle jabberings, we conclude that some are moved by their inherent cussedness, a result of long-continued adverse environments, and others by a desire to drag their dwarfed forms before a curious public. To this latter class belongs Governor J. K. Vardaman, who, in a recent message to the legislature of the state of Mississippi, makes the following contribution to the literature of fools:

"Certainly the education suited to the white man does not suit the negro. It has been demonstrated by forty years of experience and the expenditure of nearly \$300,000,000. It is your function to put a stop to the worse than wasting \$500,000 annually—money taken from the toiling white men and women of Mississippi and devoted to trying to make something of the negro which the great Architect of the Universe failed to provide in the original plan of creation."

Such statements we will not dignify by refuting them, for none take him seriously, save perchance some of his ignorant and vulgar satellites who but reflect his asininity. Without admitting the truth of his statistics, it is too obvious that were they true his arguments might be based upon the logical fallacy of *false cause* rather than on the principle of cause and effect.

While we deprecate the attitude of His Governorship on this subject, for we feel that he is an object of pity and not censure, yet we do not anticipate any dire re-

sults from his harmless and incessant chatter. He has sought unpleasant notoriety with no little success. To look at him from the most charitable point of view, he is a bubble composed chiefly of two gases, vanity and a desire for notoriety.

Dangerous Reactionaries

We can no longer doubt the need of missionaries in Africa. We readily see now how it is indeed the benighted land, "darkest Africa."

The following from the Washington Post of the 30th inst. confirms the rumors that have been rife on the Hill since New Year:

Five students at Howard University who came to this country from Africa to be educated will present to Dr. Gordon, retiring president, a cane to show their kindly feeling toward him, "for," said one of them, "he has been like a father to us." Dr. Gordon is preparing for a trip to Africa. After visiting all points of interest in that country he will go to Jerusalem, Switzerland and points in Europe. Dr. Gordon's resignation followed a revolt of the negro students of Howard University, who about two months ago at chapel exercises became boisterous and demonstrated their dislike for the president.

Even for the sake of peace and harmony this insurrectionary spirit which by being made public, strives to belittle and subvert those just and honorable and unselfish motives; which constrained the alumni, the faculty and students to protest and which actuated the trustee board to remove the cause of our complaints is hard to be overlooked.

If, as individuals, these students wished to repay Dr. Gordon for personal favors received at his hands, is it not either ridiculous or significant that they should be so

Pharisaical?

If ridiculous, does not the publicity tend to cast odium on our efforts, and, if significant, could there be any other purpose than to condemn the action of the authorities?

And again arises that painful necessity of emphasizing union even among such a heterogenous student body as ours. We do not mean that freedom of thought should be destroyed, that men are to be compelled to act contrary to the dictates of conscience, a normal conscience, but if the conscience of the one differ from the conscience of the ninety and nine, is it not reasonable to suppose that his conscience is not normal but uneducated and perverted, and is it not justifiable for the ninety and nine to gently or otherwise, persuade the erring one to think as they do?

Alma Mater or Noverca?

From that time when first the universities of Oxford, Paris and Bologna, to which the world is eternally indebted, sent forth with their benedictions men whose mission it was to disseminate that wondrously mighty truth which should eventually dissolve that terrible institution of feudalism, shatter that bond of superstition which bound men's immortal souls to their mortal bodies, and conceive a Martin Luther, there has existed a certain mutual attachment and affection between a university and its graduates. Indeed the very rich and connotative phrase, "Alma Mater," has been chosen to express this relationship of the school toward its undergraduates and alumni. The relationship, then, corresponds to the *auctoritas* and *pietas* that exist between parent and child.

The university develops what is in the man, initiates him into the institutions and culture of society and then sends him out into that

(Continued on third page.)

The University Journal

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Address all communications to THE UNIVERSITY JOURNAL, Howard University, Washington, D. C.

Students and Alumni of the University are invited to contribute.

Washington, D. C., February 2, 1906.

The Sigma Kappa Tau in publishing the Blue Ribbon Magazine, a monthly devoted to original literary endeavor, is certainly breaking ground in a new field, and is to be congratulated. Notwithstanding the many opportunities which our regular curriculum offers for originality and original effort, it cannot in the nature of things give such great opportunity for first-hand endeavor in literary work as a well-conducted student magazine. We wish this pioneer, the Blue Ribbon, success.



Aspiring

Bills have been introduced in the House of Representatives to observe McKinley's and Lincoln's birthdays as national holidays. We certainly wish we constituted the House.

Cribbing

To see him enter dressed so fine
You may be sure 'tis "quizzing" time.
By looking in his hands, he's ready
To answer dates from Noah down to
"Teddy."

His cuffs, that once were purely white,
Are striped with Laws of Shadow and
of Light.

To lift his tie and peep beneath
You'd think it made by Glin or Heath.
His passing scheme is quite complete,
He means to never know defeat.

This is the man with whom all colleges have to contend. The man to whom were it even insinuated that he would steal his neighbor's purse or tell a lie, would recoil as if stung by a serpent, aye, and even strike his would-be accuser, so high is his regard for honesty and truth; yet counts it nought at examination time to use any unfair method to pass successfully, seemingly entirely oblivious of the fact that stealing is stealing—whatever form it may take, whatever name we may give it to appease conscience, whatever vindication we may make for it.

Stealing in exams, or "cribbing," as it is called in college phrase, is practiced most in schools where there is less freedom of choice in subjects, rigid curricula and high standards for passing. The student, in these schools, unless he be satiated with the desire to obtain all he can during his course, that his education may be broad, will, probably fail to discern the efficacy in his proscribed work and will, since it is required, get thru by any means available. This evil is more prevalent in professional and technical schools than in colleges. In the former the student's fees are large, his chief object is bread-winning; too often his time and means are limited; failure in a subject would mean additional expenditure of time and money, losses he cannot sustain; he thinks any preventive justifiable.

As a preventive for "cribbing" many colleges have instituted the Honor System, which requires the students to write at the end of ex-

amination papers:

"I, ———, do hereby certify on honor that I have derived no assistance during the time of this examination from any source whatever, whether oral, written, or in print, in giving the above answers."

In the South, where this system originated, it has been used most successfully because of the spirit of civility, which, tho not as predominant as formerly, has not faded entirely. This system is faulty, in that there is no fixed way to distinguish between the reliable student and him who cannot be trusted.

Would we not be proud if our University could be assured for each member a code of ethics so truly genuine that "cribbing" would be obliterated?

Communications

The Journal invites communications but will not hold itself responsible for the sentiments therein.

EDITOR THE JOURNAL:—

Howard University stands for liberal education and it, to day, is the chief institution of training in the liberal arts for the Negro—tomorrow it may be the only one.

We believe the intention of its founder, that gallant veteran, Gen. Howard, was that the University that bore his name should, despite its limited resources, be in truth, a university; offering the very best training in all those things that form the very best conception of the term liberal education. We believe that members of its Trustee Board and Faculties feel that Howard ought to stand for broad culture.

If this be true, why not make it exclusively and primarily so? Why not introduce more of liberal art studies and less of manual training—aye, even abolish the latter? Industrial schools there are in abundance, and it is meet that these schools should exist, but we do not believe in the plan of combining the two. A university to be a university must surround itself with an atmosphere from which emanates nought but that which (Continued on fifth page.)

Alma Mater or Novice?

(Continued from first page.)

society to pursue and realize his ambitions. The alumnus ever cherishes the fondest hopes for and the fondest memories of his alma mater.

But it is not with that fostering spirit that our quarrel is. It is with that tendency toward the alienation of the alumnus from his university. We grant that in the modern arrangement of things the alma mater spirit has been lost in some cases because many college graduates take their degrees but to go into positions prepared for them, positions that have been waiting for them in banking houses, partnerships and such lucrative places, and that in many instances it seems to have been replaced by the prestige of the university.

But we of Howard were neither born with silver spoons in our mouths, nor does Howard overburden us with prestige. And though we realize that merit and not prestige is the thing sought after and appreciated yet merit and even genius without influence to place it may, may often does, "perish, unwept, unhonored, unsung."

On occasions have additions to the teaching corps of the University been made in recent years and on each occasion Howard graduates have been assiduously forgotten. If our alumni are unfitted, where lies the fault? If they are worthy, why are they never appointed here?

Surely there is something radically wrong either with that grocer or his groceries who leaves his store in the busy part of the day to buy groceries for his family and, who recommends only, under pressure, his commodities to prospective purchasers.

That parent, to all intent and purposes, is no longer a fostering one who nourishes others to the detriment of her own offspring. Then is that University an Alma Mater in the sweetest significance of the term when her own alumni are for

ever and anon neglected?

If it were not so that we believe earnestly and fervently that each graduate of Howard, and especially each college graduate, had a mission to fulfil, it were not so that we are entirely persuaded that each manly man of liberal training must needs be a factor in that divine equation in proving as false the attacks of those who in their perversity and hatred, go beyond the portals of the grave and invade the silent precincts of the sleeping dead, to destroy us, we would also naught of our school, though we know that independence ceases to be a virtue when its price is failure for ourselves and continued calumny for ours.

Events in Educational World

In the Burlington (Vt.) High School, the principal and teachers finding that 40 per cent. of the boys used tobacco habitually, and desiring to reduce the practice, have agreed that after Feb. 1 no pupil who uses tobacco can hold a school office, or be a member of any organization, including athletic and social clubs.

President Faunce of Brown University announces that Andrew Carnegie has given \$150,000 toward a new library at Brown, to be known as the John Hay Library. An additional \$150,000 is to be raised by the graduates and friends of the University.

Dr. Henry S. Pritchett has resigned the presidency of Mass. Institute of Technology to become president of the Carnegie Fund for pensioning college professors.

For and Against Football

Close on the heels of Harvard's decision to banish football as played at present, her traditional athletic rival, Yale, has come out in defense of the game. President Hadley, at the recent dinner of the New York alumni, said that foot-

ball was bound to be played if properly modified, and among all major sports, it has for the student "the double advantage of being the most democratic and the least dangerous. Played by rich and poor alike, it claims fewer victims than the sports whose successful pursuits are confined to the rich alone." He referred to frequent deaths from hunting and sailing, but said that during the thirty years that Yale had played Rugby football, no death or permanent injury had resulted to a Yale man.

President Faunce says that the faculty at Brown is wrestling with the subject, but he fears that the public has become hysterical over it, and that the sins of all sport will be loaded on to football. After all, he thinks the physical danger is of far less importance than the social and ethical side of the game. The real danger in all games is when deceit occurs.

At Chicago the representatives of the "Big Nine" Western colleges have decided upon many radical changes for football and other college athletics, with the purpose of curbing professionalism. It was agreed that unless football were modified so as to prevent brutality by the rules committee, the "Big Nine" would discontinue the game for two years. It was decided that in future the college faculties should have charge of the gate receipts. One rule proposed would bar all graduate students from the matches. A player must have as many recitations during the football season as at any other time of the year. The students shall have nothing to do with the securing of coaches and the coach must be a member of the faculty. The committee would limit the number of intercollegiate games in a season to five and limit the admission fee to 50 cents.—North American.

While doubt stands still, confidence can erect a sky-scraper.—Saturday Evening Post,

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Some Facts about Some Senators

Senator Gallagher of New Hampshire is a doctor of medicine.

Rayner of Maryland is a Jew.

Burkett of Nebraska is the youngest member.

Tillman of South Carolina is one-eyed.

Depew of New York is in his seventies and is as spry as a youth.

Allison of Iowa wears a farmer's beard.

Money of Mississippi has very poor sight.

Platt of New York cannot walk and needs an attendant.

McInery of Louisiana is deaf.

Morgan of Alabama is an octogenarian.

Cullom of Illinois is said to look like Lincoln.

Berry of Arkansas has only one leg and uses a crutch.

Clark of Montana, the "Copper King," is the richest man in the Senate.

Beveridge of Indiana looks like an actor.

Blackburn of Kentucky loves horses.

Geurin of Oregon is said to be the poorest man in the Senate.

Penrose of Pennsylvania is a bachelor.

Spooner of Wisconsin is a great constitutional lawyer.

NOTICES

Alpha Phi meets this evening at 8 o'clock.

Regular meeting of the Eureka tonight.

Vesper Service as usual on Sunday at 4:30. Dr. Moore will preach.

Y. M. C. A. meets on Sunday at 6:15 in lower Chapel.

Regular meeting of the Athletic Association at noon on Monday.

Rehearsal for Elijah Chorus this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Band rehearsal, 3 o'clock today.

Special meeting of Y. P. S. C. E. in Andrew Rankin Chapel Saturday evening at 7:30.

Meeting of Council of Upper Classmen Wednesday at 3:30 p. m. in room 34, University building.

If there is a dollar in your pockets dishonestly gained; if the blood of youths or orphans or spoiled years of precious life stick to your millions if your wealth has left others poorer if you have robbed another of opportunity; if you have cramped, dwarfed or minimized the chances of anyone in life, in amassing your wealth, then you are a failure instead of a success, although you have millions.—"Success."

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Communalizations

(Continued from second page.)

portends to the highest intellectual development. If it include under its management aught which precludes this highest development, it follows as night follows day, that the university must degenerate. If Howard is to present a truly liberal education, we pray her watch zealously the growth of her Manual Training Department.

We wonder too since the recent meeting of the Economic Association at Baltimore and its statistical accounts of the Negro's incompetency as comparable with Italian laborers, whether "industrial training" is producing the best results in the Negro, and whether it may not be eventually universally recognized that the complete Negro needs more than an industrial training? He is told that his economic condition can be improved only as he develops those qualities which command success among any people. Again we wonder if industrial training tends to develop these qualities, or if it is not to the liberal education that we must look for success?

Thinking of these things, we hope and pray that Howard will ever continue the foremost advocate of a liberal education for the Negro. ***

SOCIETIES

THE ALPHA PHI

The debating teams of the Intercollegiate and the Henry A. Brown Prize Debates are fast rounding into shape and the debates promise to be of special interest. The Intercollegiate Debate will take place on the first Monday evening of April and the H. A. Brown on March 2d.

Unusual interest has been awakened in the society on account of these debates and the executive committee is attempting to transfer this interest to the regular literary programs. It is its aim to furnish interesting and diversified programs.

There are few things in one's col-

lege career aside from the regular curriculum work that tend more towards the individual development of those who will enter into the spirit of the society with earnestness. Therefore we hope that those who may from time to time be placed on the program will feel it their duty to appear, not only for the entertainment of the audience but also for the good that each may derive from it.

~ ~ ~ ~

Y. P. S. C. E.

Special exercises of the Y. P. S. C. E. will be held in the Andrew Rankin chapel on February 3d, at 7:30 P. M. All are cordially invited.

PROGRAM.

Selection Chorus
Devotional Exercises, H. A. Pettus
Vocal Solo, Miss Pearl H. Barnes
Remarks, President
Paper, "Friendship,"

Miss Maud B. Kenedy
Mandolin Solo, F. E. Butler
Paper "Women's Influence
in Religion," Miss O. Burl
Vocal Solo, A. B. Washington
Address, Rev. J. W. Smith A. M.
Duet, Messrs. Butler and Goggins

The Sermon

At the Vesper Service last Sunday, the preacher was Dr. John L. Ewell, Prof. of Hebrew Exegesis and Church History in the Theological Department. Dr. Ewell is a scholar, but differs from many scholars in this respect: many scholars speak from their heads; Dr. Ewell speaks from his heart—the greatest eloquence. The text was Psalm 107: 30: "So He bringeth them into their desired haven." The substance of the sermon was as follows:

"The Bible has a flavor of the sea which is especially evident in the revised version, and even more in the original than any translation can show; for example, in the Hebrew, the book of Proverbs is said to be designed to teach the young man how to steer (his vessel.) The nautical imagery of the Scriptures

has found a ready response in Christian hearts, one reason being, perhaps, that the uncertainty and the mystery of ocean travel make it a fitting type of the voyage of life.

There are three important features of a voyage: 1st, the start; 2d, the course, and 3rd, the finish or end.

I. At the start the voyager must have a destination, else he must be considered a lunatic; but many a voyager on life's sea has no destination. "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve."

II. Having chosen the right destination the voyager must stick to the course. What would be thought of a captain who went north or south of his course, or turned back, to suit his own pleasure? But many a voyager to eternity, forsakes the course of prayer, and Bible study, and a clear truthful life, through love of this present world.

III. Then there is the end. If we choose the port of heaven, and stick to it, God will take care of the end. As the pilot climbs the bridge of an ocean steamer nearing her port so there will come a time when we can cease from all our toil and conflict, fall asleep in Jesus, and awaken in the celestial haven, for "so he bringeth them into their desired haven."

The speaker illustrated his points from his own experiences at sea, having more than once crossed the ocean on voyages to Europe and the Holy Land.

Vincent Stevenson Dropped from Pennsy

Philadelphia, January 30.—Vincent M. Stevenson, captain of the Pennsylvania foot ball team and one of the best quarter-backs that ever played foot ball, has been punted out of the University of Pennsylvania. The fact that he has been "dropped from the membership roll," as the action is termed at the varsity, has been kept very quiet and has been known only to a few besides the members having disciplinary matters in charge.

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